



LEE COUNTY

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bob Janes
District One

A. Brian Bigelow
District Two

Ray Judah
District Three

Tammy Hall
District Four

Frank Mann
District Five

Karen B. Hawes
County Manager

David M. Owen
County Attorney

Diana M. Parker
County Hearing Examiner

May 13, 2010

Eric Buermann
Chairman, Governing Board
South Florida Water Management District
P.O. Box 24680
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4680

Dear Chairman Buermann:

On behalf of Lee County, I want to reaffirm our strong support to acquire the lands currently owned by the US Sugar Corporation. I know the decision to purchase this property and the expense that it entails in capital and potential shift in core priorities was not an easy one to make. The governing board is to be commended, though, for your ability to envision a South Florida environment vastly improved for the generations to come.

In the years to come we look forward to working with you and your staff to help design a plan that includes a southern lake outlet as well as storage and treatment of Lake Okeechobee water. This more natural solution means so very much to Lee County and our Caloosahatchee Estuary.

I pledge my support in any way that I, or Lee County, can assist your Board in the continuing efforts to restore and protect our most valuable natural systems. I look forward to the challenge ahead and working with you to meet those challenges.

Sincerely,

Tammy Hall, Chairwoman
Lee County Board of County Commissioners